

REMARKS

The claims are claims 1, 3 to 6, 9 to 13, 15 to 17, 22, 25, 29 and 40 to 43, 46 to 49 and 52 to 54.

Claims 1, 4, 15, 16, 17, 22, 27, 29, 41, 52, 53, 54 and 56 have been amended to distinguish this invention over the cited references.

Claims 1, 3 to 6, 9 to 13, 15 to 17, 22, 25, 29 and 40 to 43, 46 to 49 and 52 to 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al U.S. Patent No. 6,069,655 and Gorr et al U.S. Patent No. 5,961,571.

Claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 recite subject matter not disclosed in the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 1 and 25 recite "automatically selecting a portion of a single image of the succession of detected images for each identified moving object using selection criteria." Claims 22 and 29 similarly recite the image processing section is operative to "automatically select a portion of a single image of the succession of detected images for each identified object utilizing selection criteria." This selection of a portion of one of the detected images is taught in the application at page 13, lines 19 to 29.

The OFFICE ACTION states at page 7, lines 11 to 15 that Seeley et al teaches:

"automatically select a single image of each identified object utilizing selection criteria (col.10, lines 19-31; Seeley discloses the selection of the identifying object information by using selection criteria, panning, tilting, or zooming into the identifying information in an event of interest; also note log or list of the saved identifying information is generated);"

The cited portion of Seeley et al (column 10, lines 19 to 31) states:

"When viewing of one scene is completed, another camera is selected by the operator or CAC: SCU 12 accordingly suspends detection from the newly selected camera, and places the previously selected camera back into its surveillance mode. For the selected camera the operator or CAC is free to pan, tilt or zoom the camera to obtain a better view of the scene, or a portion of a scene which is of interest. As part of the tour, selected cameras may be required (preprogrammed) to view particular areas of the premise which are of interest. The CAC generates and maintains a log for each tour containing information as to when performed, cameras used, operator notes, etc."

The Applicant respectfully submits that the panning, tilting or zooming a selected camera taught in this portion of Seeley et al fails to disclose or make obvious automatic selection of a portion of an image including an identified object. The Applicant respectfully submits that the pan, tilt and zoom functions taught in the cited section of Seeley et al cannot make obvious the claimed selection of a portion of an image. In particular, this portion of Seeley et al fails to mention selection of a portion of an image. Instead Seeley et al teaches control of the whole image via panning, tilting and zooming. Further, the cited portion of Seeley et al fails to teach any selection including a detected object as recited in claims 1, 22, 25 and 29. Accordingly, claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 recite further subject matter not disclosed in the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 1 and 25 recite "saving the selected portion of the single image of the succession of detected images for each identified object." Claims 22 and 29 similarly recite the image processing section is operative to "save the selected portion of the single image of the succession of detected images for each identified

object." The OFFICE ACTION states at page 7, lines 16 to 19 that Seeley et al teaches:

"save the selected image of each identified object (col. 15, lines 24-30; Seeley discloses the selection of image information from the detected images; further, Seeley discloses the storing or saving of the image information into picture buffer 40 of figure 7)"

The cited portion of Seeley et al (column 15, lines 24 to 30) states:

"Upon request by the operator, "thumbnails," or abbreviated snapshots are transmitted to a workstation 106 at the central station where they can be arranged in a mosaic pattern by the operator for his or her viewing. After viewing the thumbnails, the operator can select one or more of the images for transmission from SCU 12 to the system control."

The Applicant respectfully submits that the selected thumbnail of this part of Seeley et al is not taught as the automatically selected image. Note that the OFFICE ACTION cites a different operation of Seeley et al as allegedly making obvious the selected image. The recitations of claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 require saving the portion of the single image for each identified object. The Applicant respectfully submits that the thumbnails disclosed in Seeley et al are not the claimed portion of a detected image. Additionally, the thumbnails disclosed in Seeley et al are not taught as corresponding to detected objects as claimed. Lastly, Seeley et al includes no teaching that the saved thumbnail is the image supposedly automatically identified as taught at column 10, lines 19 to 31. Since claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 require these to be the images and Seeley et al fails to teach these are the same, claims 1, 22, 25 and 29 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 3 to 6, 9 to 12, 40 to 43 and 46 to 49 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Each of claims 3 to 6, 8 to 12, 40 to 43 and 45 to 49 recite specific selection criteria for the automatic selection of a portion of an image including a tracked object. The OFFICE ACTION at page 8, line 14 to page, 9 line 1 states:

"Regarding claims 3-6, 9-12 and 40-43 and 46-49, Seeley discloses the selection criteria to determine what kind of event is the intrusion (col.5, line 58 to col.6, line 2; note Seeley discloses that certain alarm conditions need to be met before indicating the presence of an intruder; col.6, lines 32-41, Seeley discloses saving of the time of intrusion and other historical data; col.11, line 42, Seeley discloses the image is continually or periodically updated). Also, Seeley discloses the selecting of an image that is larger than other images in a set of images (col. 10, lines 19-31; note Seeley discloses that either the operator or the CAC, central alarm computer, can zoom in the camera on the desired object or scene of interest, and when an object is zoomed, a bounding box appears on the object or scene of interest)."

Seeley et al states at column 5, line 58 to column 6, line 2:

"The system operates on the premise that only the presence of an intruder of a designated class, or an unknown, is of consequence, that everything else which is detected may be ignored, and that other alarm conditions are met. A recognition process is used to differentiate between those objects falling within and without a designated class of objects, so to reduce or substantially eliminate false and unwanted alarms. In most circumstances, the designated class is human, but the differentiation process is to identify a class into which an intruder fits; e.g., human, non-human, and unknown. However, regardless of the class of interest, for objects falling within a selected class, an indication is given."

Seeley et al states at column 6, lines 32 to 41:

"The VS operates in conjunction with a central alarm computer (CAC) to which an alarm from an AU is reported and at which the intrusion site is identified. The VS receives, logs, and stores all of the video transmitted to the central station (including live video), and provides the video to a workstation (WS) at the central station which is selected by the CAC as being available for use by an operator to view video as well as any associated data relating to the site at which a reported intrusion has occurred. The VS also stores and facilitates retrieval of historical video data for the premise being monitored and for the workstation activities at the time of an intrusion."

The cited portion of column 10 of Seeley et al is quoted above. These portions show selection criteria taught in Seeley et al. None of the selection criteria noted in the OFFICE ACTION is the same as the selection criteria of claims 3 to 6, 8 to 12, 40 to 43 and 45 to 49. The response filed June 3, 2002 at page 14, line 8 to page 15, line 25 and the response filed October 15, 2002 at page 6, line 12 to page 9, line 10 each point out the recitations of claims 3 to 6, 8 to 12, 40 to 43 and 46 to 49 that are not taught in Seeley et al. The OFFICE ACTION fails to point out where either Seeley et al or Gorr et al make obvious these particular criteria. Accordingly, claims 3 to 6, 8 to 12, 40 to 43 and 45 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 3 and 40 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claim 3 recites the image selection process uses "image selection criteria which are intended to lead to the selection of an image in which the face of a detected person is visible and large." Claim 40 similarly recites that the image processing section is operative to "use image selection criteria which are intended to lead to the selection of an image in which the face of a detected person is visible and large." The Applicant respectfully submits that neither Seeley et al nor Gorr et al includes any teaching of

attempting to detect a "visible and large" image of a person's face. The cited portions of Seeley et al fail to mention a face and likewise fail to mention a large size. Accordingly, Seeley et al fails to make obvious the recited "visible and large" image of a human face. Accordingly, claims 3 and 40 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 4 and 41 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claim 4 recites "selecting the selected image for the given change region by discarding images from the set in which a lowermost side of the bounding box is higher than in other images of the set, and by selecting from the remaining images of the set an image in which a size of the bounding box is larger than in the other remaining images of the set." Claim 41 similarly recites that image processing section is operative to "select the selected image for the given change region by discarding images from the set in which a lowermost side of the bounding box is higher than in other images of the set, and by selecting from the remaining images of the set an image in which a size of the bounding box is larger than in the other remaining images of the set." The Applicant respectfully submits that neither Seeley et al nor Gorr et al includes any teaching regarding the lowermost side or the size of a bounding box for a given change region. The cited portions of Seeley et al fail to mention bounding boxes or the lowermost sides of bounding boxes. As amended, claims 4 and 41 require the bounding box to be that part of a detected image that just encloses the corresponding change region. The pan, tilt and zoom disclosed in Seeley et al are not such a bounding box. These functions change the objects within the image and fail to make obvious selecting a part of an image. Neither does this portion of Seeley et al disclose discarding portions of images based upon the position of the

lowermost side of a bounding box or the size of the bounding box. Accordingly, claims 4 and 41 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 5 and 42 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 5 and 42 recite the automatic selecting uses "image selection criteria which cause a current image to be selected over a prior image if a lowermost point of a detected change region is lower in the current image than in the prior image." The cited portions of Seeley et al teach use of alarm conditions, but fail to teach selection of a prior portion of an image over a current portion of an image based upon the portion having the lowermost point of the images recited in claims 5 and 42. The OFFICE ACTION fails to point out any such teaching in the references. Accordingly, claims 5 and 42 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 6 and 43 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 6 and 43 recite the automatic selecting uses "image selection criteria which cause a current image to be selected over a prior image if a detected change region has increased in size relative to a prior image." The Applicant respectfully submits that neither Seeley et al nor Gorr et al includes any teaching regarding the size of a detected change region. The cited portions of Seeley et al teach use of alarm conditions, but fail to teach the selection based upon object size recited in claims 6 and 43. Accordingly, claims 6 and 43 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 9 and 46 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 9 and 46 recite selection of an image upon "detection of the absence of a previously detected object". The Applicant respectfully submits that neither Seeley et al nor Gorr et al includes any teaching

regarding the absence of a detected object. The cited portions of Seeley et al teach use of alarm conditions, but fail to teach selection based upon absence of a previously detected moving object recited in claims 9 and 46. Accordingly, claims 9 and 46 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 10 and 47 recite events not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 10 and 47 recite selection of an image upon detection that "an object has remained within a predefined region of the area for a specified time interval." While Seeley et al teaches detection of intrusion events within the video sequence, Seeley et al fails to teach the event of an object remaining within a region for a length of time. Accordingly, claims 10 and 47 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 11 and 48 recite events not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 11 and 48 recite selection of an image upon "determination that a previously moving object has become stationary." While Seeley et al teaches detection of intrusion events within the video sequence, Seeley et al fails to teach the event of a moving object stopping. Accordingly, claims 11 and 48 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 12 and 49 recite events not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 12 and 49 recite selection of an image upon "determination a previously stationary object has started moving." While Seeley et al teaches detection of intrusion events within the video sequence, Seeley et al fails to teach the event of a stationary object beginning to move. Accordingly, claims 12 and 49 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 15, 17, 52 and 54 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 15, 17, 52 and 54 recite "bounding box subset of the single image just large enough to completely contain the detected object" and saving "a portion of a detected image corresponding to the bounding box." The OFFICE ACTION states at page 9, lines 10 to 15:

"Regarding claims 15 and 52, Seeley discloses the saving of the detected image that corresponds to a bounding box (figure 7, element 40; figures 13-14, element note elements 406a-406n and 506a-506n are video buffers; in col. 10, lines 19-31, Seeley discloses the that either the operator or the CAC, central alarm computer, can zoom in the camera on the desired object or scene of interest, and when an object is zoomed, a bounding box appears on the object or scene of interest)."

This teaching of Seeley et al differs from the recitations of claims 15, 17, 52 and 54 in two ways. This portion of Seeley et al teaches zooming without teaching that the zoomed display is "just large enough to completely contain the detected object." Seeley et al includes no teaching that the zoom goes to the point that display is just large enough to completely contain the detected object. Seeley et al teaches saving the entire zoomed image without teaching "saving a portion of a detected image corresponding to the bounding box" as recited in claims 15, 17, 52 and 54. Accordingly, claims 15, 17, 52 and 54 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 16, 17, 53 and 54 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 16 and 53 recite "saving one of the detected images as a reference image at a first resolution, and wherein said step of saving the selected portion of the single image is carried out by saving the bounding box enclosing the selected portion of the single image at a second resolution which is higher than the first resolution."

Respective base claims 15 and 52 recite that this bounding box is "just large enough to completely contain a corresponding detected object." Claims 17 and 54 recite "saving one of the detected images as a reference image having a first resolution, wherein said step of saving the selected portion of the single image is carried out by determining a bounding box subset of the single image just large enough to completely contain a corresponding detected object and saving at a second resolution the bounding box enclosing the selected portion of the single image, the second resolution being greater than the first resolution." Seeley et al does disclose image data at full resolution and thumbnail or abbreviated snapshots. Seeley et al fails to teach that any image saved is limited to the bounding box enclosing an identified object. The thumbnails disclosed in Seeley et al are reduced resolution images of the snapshots, which are the full resolution camera output. The thumbnails of Seeley et al are not a portion of the image as claimed but the whole image at reduced resolution. Employing the zoom taught in Seeley et al at column 10, lines 19 to 31 would result in both the snapshot and the thumbnail showing the zoomed image. Thus the thumbnail cannot be the claimed "selected portion of the single image." Further, Seeley et al teaches that the snapshots are stored. However, Seeley et al never teaches that the thumbnails are stored. The Applicants respectfully submit that the thumbnails are formed from the snapshots as they are viewed. Lastly, even if the thumbnails are stored, claims 16, 17, 53 and 54 require they be stored at a lower resolution than the snapshots. The OFFICE ACTION states at page 9, lines 18 to 20:

"(note in figure 8B, the reference image is saved at a first resolution, a thumbnail image with a lower resolution where as in figure 8A, the reference image is saved at higher resolution, at 'full resolution')."

On the contrary, claims 16, 17, 53 and 54 recite that the selected portion of the single image is saved at the higher resolution. This is the opposite relationship than that cited in the OFFICE ACTION. Accordingly, claims 16, 17, 53 and 54 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 17 and 54 recite further subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claims 17 and 54 recite "displaying the reference image at the first resolution, displaying the bounding box enclosing the selected image within the reference image at the first resolution, and displaying the bounding box enclosing the selected image separately from the reference image and at the second resolution." This subject matter is described in the application at page 19, lines 24 to 37, page 20, lines 20 to 29 and illustrated in Figure 8. Figure 8 illustrates display of the reference image 111 with the object (person 86) and bounding box 85 overlain on the reference image. Figure 8 also illustrates a separate display 121 of the selected image. Seeley et al does teach display of the same image data in full resolution (snapshot) and in reduced resolution (thumbnail) at Figure 15. However, in Seeley et al both the snapshot and the thumbnail show the entire camera frame. In Seeley et al the thumbnail is not limited to the bounding box enclosing the identified object as recited in claims 17 and 54. Claims 17 and 54 recite that the bounding box is displayed at a higher resolution than the reference image, while Seeley et al teaches the thumbnails are displayed at the lower resolution. Seeley et al also fails to teach that the bounding box is displayed within the reference image. Accordingly, claims 17 and 54 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 25 and 29 recite further subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al. Claim

25 recites "automatically saving a series of Cartesian coordinate pairs which identifies the path of movement of the object, said information being retained after the object is no longer present in newly detected images." Claim 29 similarly recites the image processing section operates to "automatically save a series of Cartesian coordinate pairs which identifies the path of movement of the object, and to retain the information after the object ceases to be present in current detected images." This subject matter is disclosed in the application at page 17, lines 32 and 33. The Applicant respectfully submits that Seeley et al fails to teach saving this series of Cartesian coordinate pairs. Accordingly, claims 25 and 29 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al and Gorr et al.

Claims 27 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al U.S. Patent No. 6,069,655, Gorr et al U.S. Patent No. 5,961,571 and of Baxter U.S. Patent No. 5,966,074.

Claims 27 and 56 recite subject matter not made obvious by the combination of Seeley et al, Gorr et al and Baxter. Claims 27 and 56 recite saving "an identification of an event associated with the detected object." Claim 27 recites "displaying on the reference image the identification of the event at a location on the reference image corresponding to a location of the event." Claim 56 similarly recites "display via said display device said reference image ... and said identification of said event on said reference image at a location on the reference image corresponding to a location of the event." This subject matter is disclosed in the application at page 20, lines 7 to 19 and illustrated in Figure 8. Note the ENTER label 116 and EXIT label 117 in Figure 8 are in locations corresponding to the object location upon detection of the events. The OFFICE ACTION cites column 10, lines 28 to 31 and

element 602 of Figure 15 of Seeley et al as allegedly making obvious the claimed display of events. Neither Seeley et al, Gorr et al nor Baxter include any teaching regarding display of event labels on a reference image at a location one the reference image corresponding to a location of the event. Thus claims 27 and 56 are allowable over the combination of Seeley et al. Gorr et al and Baxter.

The Applicants respectfully submit that all the present claims are allowable for the reasons set forth above. Therefore early reconsideration and advance to issue are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the below listed telephone number and address to facilitate prosecution.

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